

NEW CATALOGUE - SECTION "M".

Roy Gault.

Again, as I write this piece, the proof reading by Stephen Steere of section "M" of the New Illustrated Catalogue is almost complete and should easily be completed in time for the November AGM in London. This new section lists 1,154 different "M" dies, an increase of 13% on the 1,020 known after the April 1993 Update. The number identified now stands at an impressive 563 (49%).

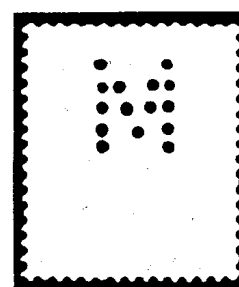
As with previous catalogues, many tens of thousands of perfined stamps have been inspected by fellow collectors contributing to this latest catalogue. Over 9,300 different stamps are itemised against the 1,154 different dies giving an average of just over 8 stamps/die.

The ***longest lived*** of the "M" dies is "M/C" (M1060.02M), used 1882-1975 by Manchester Corporation, although there appears to have been a short period of inactivity 1928-1941. "M.V/&C⁰" (M5860.01) has the ***greatest number of DDF*** at 133 (on 15 different issues), and "MV/C" (M5850.01) can be found on the ***greatest number of issues*** - 16, with 55 DDE The 'scarcity' table for the M's is as follows:

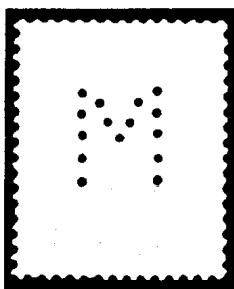
DDF known	DD	%	Scarcity
10 or more	282	24.4%	Common
4-9	368	31.9%	Reasonable
2-3	266	23.1%	Scarce
0-1	238	20.6%	Rare
TOTAL	1,154		

The following 21 dies have been reported over the years but no records survive regarding stamp details. Can I invite you all to have a look through your collections to see if you have any examples - ***they must be out there somewhere!***

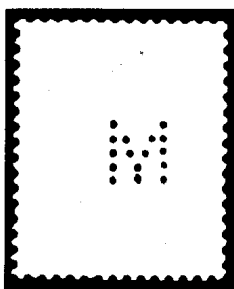
If you have, please report stamp issue/value and any postmark/date information to help provide an accurate date range for the die.



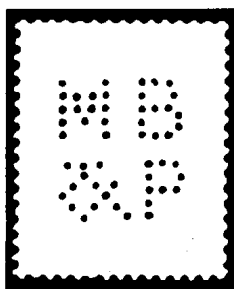
M0015.16



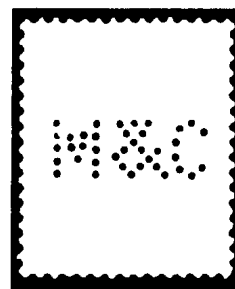
M0015.18



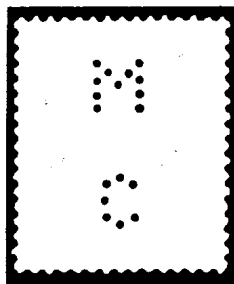
M0016.01



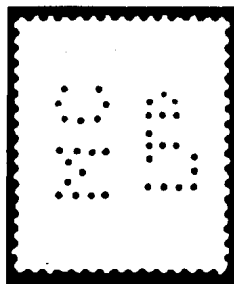
M0170.01



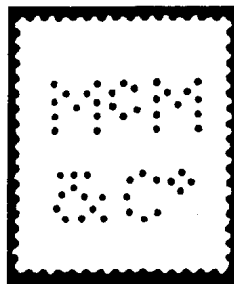
M1040.02



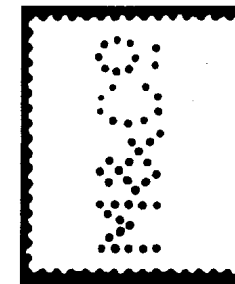
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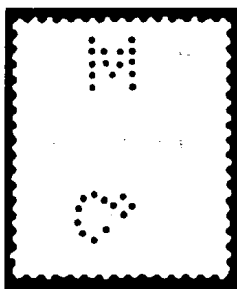
M1440.01



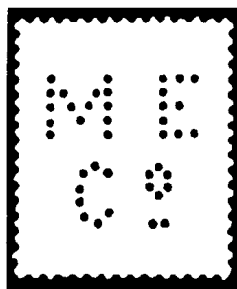
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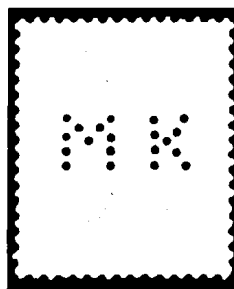
M1530.01



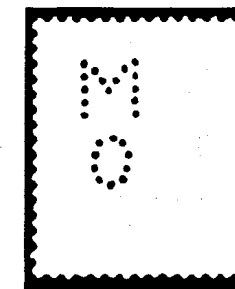
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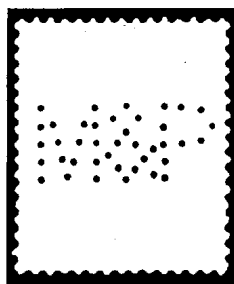
M2295.01



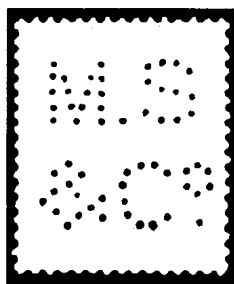
M3510.01



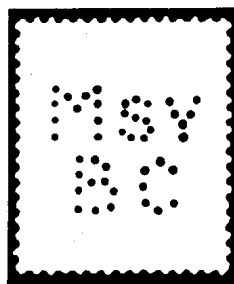
M4270.02



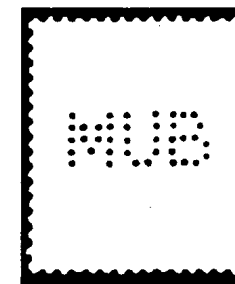
M4420.02



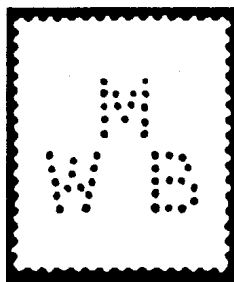
M5115.02



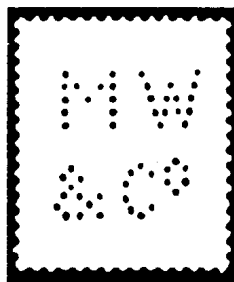
M5420.01



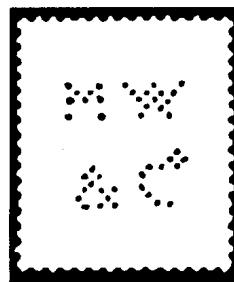
M5753.01



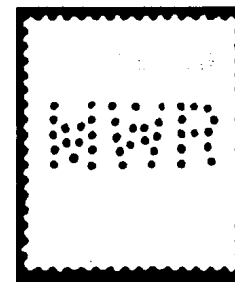
M5990.01



M6035.02



M6035.03v



M6125.01

G.B. Perfins commencing letter "M" with no known details